Bend Clausen: Anmerkungen zu einem unbeachteten Instrument. The Tonkori of the Ainu of Northern Japan is an instrument which is now almost forgotten although in Hokaido it is well recognised. However its history is still uncertain. The Japanese musicologist Kazuyuki Tanimoto has published a book in 2000 regarding the iconography of the Ainu with his theories about the development of the instrument encouraging further research in archaeology, especially of the Kuril Islands and Sachalin cultures.